

Minutes Verein Meeting September 22nd 2014, 7.00 – 9.45 pm

JFKS, Teltower Damm 87 -93, 14167 Berlin, room G 117

Susanne Volkmer, Katharine Doeringer, Klaus Hentges, Susanne Vogel-Küntzle, Marion Greeves, Dagmar Hoppe, James Bell, Tony László Vörös, Isolde Streit, Wendy Rohrbacher, Vinh Pram-Beinhold (11 voting members present), Andrea Komes, Lynn Brinda, Eavan Schmidt-Bleek, Kimberley Schneidereit, Klaus Stein, Falk Wöhler Moorhoff, Herr Roth, Sonia Weese, Thando Tilman
minutes: Susanne Vogel-Küntzle

The chair Susanne Volkmer opens the meeting at 7.10 pm.

1. Approval of Agenda

additions: - Requests: Unterpflanzung Baum (Marion)
 - Miscellaneous: update on grills (Kimberley)

2. Approval of minutes from board meeting June 23rd, 2014

- approved

3. Requests

▶ The same playground equipment that got destroyed by vandalism is no longer available. Dagmar has several quotes for a proper replacement. She will contact the ES teachers and let them decide what they think is a most appropriate replacement. > **postponed**

▶ Shelves and bins for the drama department had been approved before the meeting in an internal decision because the working evening with parents and students already took place on September 19th (**649,30 € OBI**).

▶ Lori Cook is asking for financial support (**315 €**) of a 7 session workshop with a Sri Lankan classical musician. Appr. 70 10th graders will take part in the workshops and up to 200 students could attend the final performance. > **approved unanimously**

contingent upon the approval of the administration

Tony will contact administration first and then Ms. Cook.

▶ The Fun Day team needs **2,000 €** working money to be able to pay some bills in advance. > **approved unanimously**

▶ The patch of land under the new tree and bench is covered with weed which does not look nice. Marion has a quote (714 €) for planting snowberry bushes and ground-cover plants. Questions arise if snowberries are the best option and if there is a cheaper solution - plants from OBI? planting done by the Hausmeisters? Herr Roth will ask. > **postponed**

4. Committee Reports

PR/Fundraising

Planning and organization of Fun Day goes well. There will be about 60 booths, 25% of their profit will go to the VEREIN. Raffle tickets are on sale through the whole week during school hours, one in four tickets wins, the prizes are of good quality, sponsors will be mentioned on posters and on stage. The only problem is a scaffolding that is being put up outside the aula against former agreements.

The new "Kräuterschnecke" looks very nice on the school grounds. First grade teacher Frau Prenzel and her class have volunteered to take care of the planting and maintenance.

The "meeting point" bench will be set up during fall break.

Ideas: - hang a big poster on the side wall of the locker block to announce the bench.

- put a plate on the bench stating the number of Fun Run laps that students ran to finance the bench.

The membership drive of the last few weeks feels like a big success, but there are no exact member numbers yet. Concrete results can be expected towards the end of October when the membership fees will be collected.

There is still confusion especially among new ES parents about the various JFKS groups and organizations. A working group is planned to think about strategies to solve this problem a.o..

Locker team

The allocation gets easier and smoother each year. Hanging the locks before the students arrived was a success and will be continued next year.

The upcoming big task of moving most of the 9th grade lockers to the third floor is not the responsibility of the VEREIN. The affected students have been informed, the administration has repeatedly promised to take care of their part of the project "meeting point".

Treasurer

For the time being Klaus can only give a rough outline of the financial status quo. Two big expenses (sound system aula, noise reduction in ES) were made, the next one is coming up with the realization of the "meeting point".

The supply kits show losses of more than 2000 € due to the minimum order sizes of some items and the shop has not been reimbursed for the Sigg bottles yet that have been given out as welcome presents to new members.

Personnel expenditures for FAV-workers are mostly covered by public grants, there is no financial burden for the VEREIN except for some insurance fees.

At the moment the VEREIN should not get involved in big projects, minor projects are no financial problem. After collecting membership fees during October and knowing the result of Fun Day the figures will be more exact.

HS librarian Lucinda Scott-Kellermeier gives a report on the tasks of the FAV-worker in the HS library and stresses his important help for the well-functioning of the library. His contract - and with it the state subsidy of appr. 580€/month - ends in October. The job center Lichtenberg has not renewed the contract yet, there is a vague chance that they will do so within the next 6 months. Since the Trust Fund doesn't co-finance the library help, Lucy asks the VEREIN to cover the costs in order to be able to keep him in the library.

After a lengthy discussion about the financial and other consequences of the VEREIN's current involvement as employer the board votes on the question:

Does the VEREIN want to substitute the state subsidies - should they be discontinued - for existing employment contracts? > **denied unanimously**

Explanation: with the state subsidies the existing contracts are basically a wash. Taking on 580€/month is not only a substantial financial burden for the VEREIN but may also set a precedent with unforeseen consequences to the VEREIN's budget.

5. Miscellaneous

■ Webmaster

Tony is not prepared to proactively approach people to submit contributions to the website. He wants to step down from the duties of webmaster at earliest convenience. Dagmar is already in contact with an interested mother who might want to take on the job. Hopefully she can be present at our next meeting.

■ Guidelines for borrowing the gas grills

Kimberley has compiled an info sheet on the procedure of borrowing the gas grills (deposit, gas charge, cleaning etc.) and will send it around the next day.

meeting ends at 9.45 pm

Next meeting will be on Thursday, October 30th